

Redirecting URLs with Apache

LPIC-2: Linux Engineer (202-450)

Objectives:

At the end of this episode, I will be able to:

1. Define 301, 302, redirects, and rewrites as well as when to use them.
2. Configure redirects using an htaccess file in Apache.

Additional resources used during the episode can be obtained using the download link on the overview episode.

- Redirecting content
 - Apache uses the `.htaccess` file
 - Types
 - Redirect
 - 301 (permanent)
 - 302 (temporary)
 - Rewrite
- Enabling htaccess files
 - Can be enabled/disabled on a per-vhost basis
 - `sudoedit /etc/apache2/sites-available/<name>`
 - `AllowOverride All`
 - `.htaccess` file is placed in the website content folder
- Basic redirects
 - Redirect a file to another file
 - `Redirect 301 /old.html /new.html`
 - Redirecting all URLs to another domain
 - `Redirect 301 / https://newsite.com/`
 - Redirect a single directory to another site
 - `Redirect 301 /account/ https://newsite.com/account/`
- Using context matching and regex
 - Redirect from a directory to another
 - `RedirectMatch 301 ^/shop/ /products/`
 - Redirecting an old directory to new directory
 - `RewriteRule ^blog/(.*)/(.*)/(.*)$ /news/$2/$1/$3 [R=301,NC,L]`
 - Options
 - R - Redirect. Indicates an external redirect
 - NC - No case. Disables case sensitivity
 - L - Last. Do not apply any other rules
- Real-world example
 - Adding www and redirecting to HTTPS
 - `RewriteEngine On`
 - `RewriteCond %{HTTP_HOST} ^website.com`
 - `RewriteRule (.*) https://www.website.com/$1 [R=301,L]`